

The Cullen-Snyder Framework for Evaluative Analysis of Naturopathy with Regard to Freedom
(v.1.0)

Note: The Snyder aspect of this framework is drawn from the publication “On Freedom” (2024) and is not meant to portray involvement in any way by Tim Snyder whatsoever.

Overview

The Cullen-Snyder Framework for Evaluative Analysis of Naturopathy with Regard to Freedom synthesizes critical epistemology (Cullen) and political philosophy (Snyder) to assess naturopathy's societal impacts through dual lenses of scientific integrity and human liberty. This interdisciplinary approach evaluates how naturopathic practices intersect with fundamental freedoms while maintaining analytical rigor.

Foundational Principles

1. Epistemic-Social Interdependence

Combines Cullen's concept of "epistemic conflation" (blending scientific and pseudoscientific claims) with Snyder's "factuality freedom" (access to truth as prerequisite for liberty). Establishes that misrepresented knowledge systems inherently threaten freedom.

2. Freedom as Active Construction

Integrates Snyder's positive freedom ("freedom to" through institutional support) with Cullen's warning about institutional erosion from pseudoscience. Positions authentic freedom as requiring both accurate information and structural safeguards.

Key Analytical Components

A. Naturopathy's Epistemic Profile (Cullen-Based)

- **Science Camouflage Index:** Measures proportion of science-exterior claims presented as science-based.
- **Institutional Legitimacy Score:** Assesses academic/professional recognition relative to evidentiary support.

B. Freedom Impact Matrix (Snyder-Based)

Evaluates effects on Snyder's five freedoms:

Freedom Dimension	Naturopathy Evaluation Criteria
Sovereignty	Patient autonomy vs. misinformation risks
Unpredictability	Treatment variability and evidence consistency
Mobility	Healthcare choices constrained/preserved
Factuality	Accuracy of disclosed information
Solidarity	Community health outcomes vs. individual claims

Implementation Protocol

1. Dual Sub-Componentry Assessment

- *Epistemic Audit:* Map naturopathic claims using Cullen's knowledge-blending taxonomy
- *Freedom Impact Analysis:* Apply Snyder's five freedoms through weighted metrics

2. Institutional Evaluation

Analyze how healthcare systems/policies:

- Enable Snyder's "positive freedom" through science literacy
- Counteract Cullen's "erosion vectors" of pseudoscientific infiltration

Synopsis

This framework provides a structured method to simultaneously evaluate medical claims' validity and their implications for societal freedom, operationalizing Snyder's philosophical constructs through Cullen's empirical critique.